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Eric A. Meade, REG. NO. 42,876

Attorney Docket No. BM45351

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ruelle, Jean-Louis

Serial No.: 09/889,267

Filed: January 17, 2002

For: Neisseria Meningitidis Antigen

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Baskar, Padmavathi

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR. § 1.116

Introductory Remarks:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2003 (herein referred to as "Office Action," Paper No. 11). Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

It is believed that entry of this Amendment is timely filed on or before December 22, 2003. Notwithstanding, should this Paper not be considered timely filed, Applicant hereby requests a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.